

has been damaged by chemotherapy or other underlying disease. Blood collected from the umbilical cords of recently delivered infants have proven advantages over other sources of these cells, such as adult donors. Stem cells found in the umbilical cord are less immunologically mature than other sources, which lessens the risk of rejection when transplanted. In addition, the collection of these cells poses minimal risk to the mother and infant. In some cases there are sufficient stem cells in one umbilical cord for a transplant to reconstitute bone marrow in a recipient; and

Whereas, Nearly 12,000 Americans a year search for a bone marrow donor. Of these, only a small fraction identifies a relative who is an acceptable match for a successful donation. All the others must rely on a transplant from a stranger. More than 9 million adults have voluntarily entered bone marrow donor registries worldwide. This number is not sufficient to find a match for everyone in need; and

Whereas, The current system for collecting and registering umbilical cord blood in the United States is fragmented, with at least 20 public banks operating across the country, one of which is located in Grand Rapids, Michigan. In 2004, the United States Congress appropriated \$10 million to the Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration to establish a National Cord Blood Stem Cell Bank Program. Congress directed the Institute of Medicine to make recommendations to set up and operate the bank. In April 2005 the Institute of Medicine met its responsibility by issuing an extensive report with recommendations on how to make the current system work and expand it for the benefit of physicians and patients searching for matching donors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the House of Representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States and the Department of Health and Human Services to take the steps necessary to create the national cord blood stem cell bank based on the recommendations of the Institute of Medicine; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives members of the Michigan congressional delegation, the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration. Adopted by the House of Representatives, June 1, 2005.

POM-163. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of New Hampshire relative to supporting Federal funding for Lyme disease research; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 4

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Lyme disease is probably the most common tick-borne bacterial disease in the world, and in the United States, it accounts for more than 90 percent of all reported cases of vector-borne illness; and

Whereas, New Hampshire ranked 12th nationwide in total reported cases to the CDC in 2003; and

Whereas, the number of reported cases in 2004 in New Hampshire has grown substantially from the 2003 reported numbers; and

Whereas, the tick populations are spreading northward with the primary carrier being the deer tick; and

Whereas, the lack of early detection of Lyme disease may result in unrecognized illness and persistent symptoms of Lyme disease infection; and

Whereas, further research and health care provider education about Lyme disease laboratory testing is needed; and

Whereas, the issue of co-infections is clouding the diagnostic picture with babesiosis, ehrlichiosis, anaplasmosis, Bartonella, RMSF, tularemia, tick paralysis, and other infections possibly being transmitted by the bite of the same ticks that transmit Lyme disease and Lyme-like diseases; and

Whereas, the educational awareness of this disease, insurance coverage, and research funding need more attention in New Hampshire; and

Whereas, government officials need to understand the complexities of this disease, develop good sound policy to draw attention to Lyme disease, and stop the spread of Lyme disease in the state of New Hampshire: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring, That the general court of New Hampshire strongly supports more federal funding for Lyme disease research; and

That the general court will continue to educate the public and physicians about this disease through the New Hampshire department of health and human services and other appropriate state agencies; and

That copies of this resolution signed by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives shall be sent by the senate clerk to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the New Hampshire congressional delegation.

POM-164. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to enacting Federal legislation to ensure that deserving victims of asbestos exposure receive compensation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE RESOLUTION 177

Whereas, asbestos, a mineral processed and used in thousands of construction and consumer products, is a dangerous substance and has caused thousands of people to develop serious and often fatal diseases and cancers; and

Whereas, millions of workers have been exposed to asbestos, and the economic toll resulting from litigation related to exposure to asbestos could run into the hundreds of billions of dollars; and

Whereas, many companies, in order to avoid bankruptcy and to compensate victims with manifest injuries from exposure to asbestos, have attempted to set aside sufficient resources to compensate such victims; and

Whereas, the new claims are resulting in a depletion of the funds available to compensate victims who have sustained serious injuries and who are in desperate need of compensation; and

Whereas, the United States Supreme Court has noted that federal and state courts have been inundated by an enormous number of asbestos cases that defies customary judicial administration and calls for national legislation; and

Whereas, the United States Senate Judiciary Committee, under the bipartisan leadership of Republican Senator Arlen Specter and Democratic Senator Patrick Leahy, have crafted a bipartisan piece of legislation that creates a fair and equitable system to deal with the asbestos litigation crisis; and

Whereas, this bipartisan legislation creates an asbestos trust fund that will ensure that victims of asbestos exposure will receive just and fair compensation: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Louisiana Senate does hereby memorialize the members of the United States Senate from Louisiana, Senator Mary Landrieu and Senator David Vitter, to continue to work toward enacting federal legislation to ensure that deserving victims of asbestos exposure receive compensation and continue to work with Senators Specter and Leahy to pass meaningful and fair asbestos litigation reform legislation. Be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of Representatives and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress.

POM-165. A resolution adopted by the City Commission of Belle Glade of the State of Florida relative to the protection and enhancement of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. INHOFE for the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Marcus C. Peacock, of Minnesota, to be Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Granta Y. Nakayama, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Susan P. Bodine, of Maryland, to be Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste, Environmental Protection Agency.

By Mr. GRASSLEY for the Committee on Finance.

Suzanne C. DeFrancis, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Alex Azar II, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Charles E. Johnson, of Utah, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 1427. A bill for the relief of Marcela Silva do Nascimento to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mr. CORZINE, Mrs. CLINTON, and Mr. FEINGOLD):

S. 1428. A bill to stop corporations from financing terrorism to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. DEWINE):

S. 1429. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to assist homeless students in obtaining postsecondary education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DEWINE (for himself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

S. 1430. A bill to provide loan forgiveness to social workers who work for child protective agencies; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.